GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:775
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2001
GROWTH OF CELLULAR TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of growth of cellular telephone subscribers increased in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the projections regarding growth in number of said subscribers in the country as on date;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage faster growth of cellular sector in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The subscriber base of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in the country as on March, 1998, March, 1999 and March, 2000 (service area wise) is annexed.

(b) to (d): The Government have not assessed the projections of cellular subscribers. However, Government proposes to award licences for CMTS to fourth cellular operator and fill up certain vacant slots by inviting bids for the same to achieve faster growth and more competition in the field. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/ Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have also earlie been given licences for CMTS to provide the cellular service in the country.

SUBSCRIBER BASE OF CELLULAR MOBILE TELEPHONE SERVICE

S. No.	Service Area (Meto/Telecom Circles)	NO. OF SUBSCRIBERS (MARCH, 1998)	NO. OF SUBSCRIBERS (MARCH, 1999)	NO. OF SUBSCRIBERS (MARCH, 2000)
1.	DELHI	215144	215637	332330
2.	MUMBAI	243028	228297	319309
3.	CALCUTTA	51166	39777	90036
4.	CHENNAI	42419	35832	54256
5.	Andhra Pradesh	37653	73991	105469
6.	Assam	2259	3869	5823
7	Bihar	7379	19197	21901
8.	Gujarat	39600	81499	146175
9.	Haryana	13975	18411	25047
10.	Himachal Pradeh	2080	3360	5048
11.	Karnataka	43530	76984	127967
12.	Kerala	21380	45623	106560
13.	Maharashtra	44859	97204	115086
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12234	20814	40544
15.	North East	Nil	556	722
16.	Orissa	3578	9933	9139

17. Punjab 16977 55425 94403
18. Rajasthan 13011 16126 20025
19. Tamilnadu 11312 25121 90956
20. Uttar Pradesh (W) 36280 74713 55950
21. Uttar Pradesh (E) 23049 54262 113587
22. West Bengal 1403 2947 3978

TOTAL 8,82,316 11,99,578 18,84,311